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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Verwaerde, et al.
Serial No.: 09/550,107
Confirmation No.: 8463
Filing Date: April 14, 2000
For: COMPOUND SCREENING METHOD

Examiner: Whiteman, B.A.
Art Unit: 1635

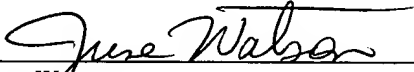
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The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 3rd day of January, 2003.


June Watson

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on October 3, 2002. Please amend the application as follows. Applicants have attached hereto pages containing amended claims, with amendments indicated by bracketing (for deletions) and underlining (for insertions).

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-37, 45-50, 63-73, 88-90, 98-100 and 102-186 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

38. (twice amended) A method of identifying chemical substances which have potential pharmacological activity using nematode worms, which method comprises the steps of:
- (a) dispensing substantially equal numbers of nematode worms into each of the wells of a multi-well assay plate;

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